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2833

Attorney Docket No. LCB363

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8/27-02
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Lennart Axelsson)	
)	
Serial No.:	09/872,319)	Art Unit: 2833
)	
Filed:	June 1, 2001)	Examiner: Edwin A. León
)	
For:	Improved Terminal Carrier)	
	Cut-Off Design)	

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

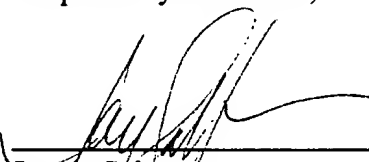
This Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 19, 2002 in the above-identified matter. Said Office Action identified all ten pending claims as being subject to a restriction requirement. Specifically, the Examiner identified two groups of claims, claims 1-6 drawn to electrical connectors and claims 7-10 drawn to a method of making electrical connectors. The Examiner identified such groups as being related by virtue of being "process of making" and "product made". Specifically, the Examiner argued that the product made (presumably the dielectric carrier strip) can be made by another and materially different process, "molding the dielectric material around the terminal".

Applicant respectfully traverses this restriction requirement. The Examiner's characterization of the groups as "process of making" and "product made" is inaccurate. Claims 1-3 are directed to a terminal disposed on a carrier strip. Claims 4-6 are directed to a carrier strip integrally connecting and including a plurality of terminals. Claims 7-10 are directed to a method for terminating an insulated wire with a terminal from a carrier strip. Thus, the method claims, claims 7-10, recite a method for using the products of claims 1-6 (namely a terminal and carrier strip) to terminate an insulated wire. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, this method is not directed to producing either of the products claimed in claims 1-6, but rather is directed to a method of using these products. As such, Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.143, Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute claims 1-6, identified by the Examiner as group I.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:



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